



Parks & Recreation Commission
7:00 P.M.
September 24, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: Brent Erickson, Chair

Present: Eunice Abrahamsen, Juli Bradley, Scott Jonason, Mark Nickerson and Melissa Smith

Excused: Walt Eby

Absent: Steve Lorenz

Staff Present: Jerry Acheson, Kathi Hansen and Susan Newlove

A motion was made by Bradley, seconded by Jonason, and carried that minutes of the general meeting of August 27, 2008, be approved as written.

2008 ANNUAL POOL REPORT

Kathi Hansen, Pool Manager, distributed the 2008 pool report and the proposed pool schedule for 2009. Hansen stated that she will begin with the schedule of recommendations for 2009, which are based on attendance and current economic trends.

The current recommendations are: continue Open Swim on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm; continue Family Swim on Tuesday and Thursday from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm; and have lap swim from 12:00 to 12:55 pm Monday through Saturday. Hansen stated that they can continue to do private rentals during non-scheduled hours and swimming lessons would continue to be held Monday through Thursday in the morning and evening. Additional recommendations include a ten-week schedule and reducing swim capacity to 160 for open swim periods.

Hansen stated that the ten-week schedule would include closing on the 4th of July weekend. Erickson expressed concern about closing on that weekend and stated that people may not travel out of town as much due to high costs. He also stated that more families could possibly utilize the park and pool facility for holiday gatherings. Smith commented that the City of Vancouver may not be having fireworks on the 4th of July which may also encourage more local residents to stay in town.

Hansen stated that an alternative would be to open a day later or close a day earlier during the season. Acheson added that June is typically very weather dependent. Smith declared that she would like to see the pool open a day later. Acheson confirmed that

they will leave the policy the same and will be open the Friday and Saturday of the 4th of July weekend. He stated that he will make the necessary budget changes and will either shut down a day early or start a day later to make up for the difference.

Abrahamesen asked Hansen how Camas swim lesson fees compare with Lacamas Swim & Sport. Hansen responded that Lacamas Swim & Sport's member fees are comparable to what Camas currently charges. Hansen stated that an increase in lesson fees for 2009 is being proposed. In response to Jonason's question as to whether sponsorships are offered to students who can not afford lessons, Hansen stated that there is a sponsorship program funded through the Camas Washougal Community Chest.

In response to Erickson's question regarding whether the only firm change to the 2009 schedule is the pool closing on Sundays, Hansen stated they are also removing Monday, Wednesday and Friday Family Swim and there will be no classes on Friday mornings.

Acheson asked Hansen to explain private rentals. Hansen stated that currently, Camas may do private rentals based on staffing and time availability. With the new schedule there will be more time for private rentals since they may be offered whenever the pool is not open. Hansen stated that private rentals bring in a lot of revenue. In response to Nickerson's question as to how private rentals are promoted, Hansen stated that they are advertised in the newsletter. In response to Nickerson's question about private rental fees, Hansen stated that the fees are based on attendance and are \$100/hour for up to 50 people and \$150/hour for up to 100 people.

Hansen stated that the fee increases for 2009 include: swimming lesson fees, which are increasing from \$38 to \$45; the youth program/class fees are increasing from \$32 to \$40; the swim camp fees are increasing from \$50 to \$65.

Community events held at the pool this summer included the Summer Splashtacular, which was a statewide event. Hansen stated that this was a free water safety/awareness event that people really enjoyed. This event has been budgeted for the upcoming year and Camas is looking for additional sponsorships.

Physical operations: Hansen stated that the mats are not going to be usable soon but are not in the budget; the chlorine system and heating system have new pumps and continue to work great; the painting of the pool shell is not included in the upcoming budget but should be painted every 2 years; another coat of paint is needed in the locker area; drain/entrapment cover replacements will be required in 2009. Hansen suggested a community workday for necessary improvements to help decrease costs.

PROJECT UPDATES

Community Development Block Grants: Two have been submitted. The first one submitted is for Goot park to include parking expansion, building a new restroom and a new playground structure, and to add pathway connecting to the new Washougal River Greenway trail system. The second one submitted is for the Community Center to improve handicap access.

Prune Hill Sports Park: The new field is in with new fencing and a new backstop. The restroom and drainage system have been put on hold.

Washougal River Greenway Trail System: This is in the Design stage. The City received a letter from the Department of Ecology regarding possible issues with shorelines. If everything continues as is, the project will begin construction next August. In response to Erickson's question regarding whether the City is updating the shoreline masterplan, Acheson stated Camas is in the process of updating. The requirement is to start updating in 2011.

OTHER ITEMS

Camas Cemetery: Erickson stated that fencing was placed along the edge of the Cemetery for the liability and safety of the general workers. The fence is a donation to the city from Nellie Gruenfeld.

Parks and Recreation Potluck: Erickson thanked Eunice Abrahamsen for hosting the potluck at her home and thanked Jim Gant for the wonderful salmon he cooked for everyone.

Moose Lodge: Acheson stated that the City of Camas is close to reaching an agreement with the Moose Lodge which would extend the lease to approximately two and a half years with an increase in rent, but nothing is official as of yet.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.